

EAST AFR. PROT
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1916

28 June

at previous Paper.

38633 (surv. exp)

Somali unrest in N. Territory.

Sends memo for week ending 28 June

See on 38660

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Lt Austell's 38660 &*

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EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.
No. 389.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

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June 28th, 1916.

Sir,

Gov
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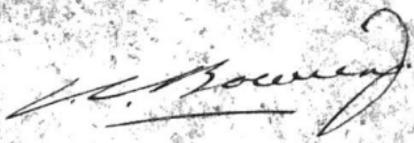
MEMORANDUM

In continuation of my despatch No. 380 of the 23rd instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a further memorandum for the week ending the 24th June summarising the events in connection with the Somali unrest in the Northern territories of the Protectorate.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your humble, obedient servant,



GOVERNOR'S Deputy

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
ANDREW BONAR LAW, P.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
DOWNING STREET,
LONDON, S. W.

In Despatch No. 389 of June 28th 1916

PRECIS FOR WEEK ENDING

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Saturday June 24th.

I. THE DETAILS.

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(i) On the 21st a letter dated Melka Awarra June 8th was received from Mr. Llewellyn. Hadji Hassan has reported to him that all round Wajheir is quiet except between the Garreh and the Degodia. The Aulihan have entered Garrah country up to the Dawa River and men sent by Hadji Hassan saw them above Barbuabus, North west of Gerilleh near Riba. He therefore sent to the Marehan and the Garreh telling them to oppose the passage of the Aulihan through their country. The former agreed but the latter did not, possibly because they were not strong enough to do so. Hadji Hassan also sent Mr. Llewellyn a letter from Oaman Gelli Maghan, Sultan of the Mohamed Zubeir on the Deahok Wama, to the Mohamed Zubeir at Wajheir, exhorting them to assist the Government to the best of their power.

Mr. Llewellyn has also heard that of all the Berehli Aulihan, the Her Ali alone are left in their old country and have joined the Bartiri refusing to obey Abdurrahman Kursaal. It is also reported that the Marehan recently raided the Aulihan, taking the whole of the stock of a section of the Wafattu called the Awa. The Aulihan retaliated by raiding 7 somas of camels from the Marehan.

(ii) Mr. Llewellyn, with No. 2 Company and the Maxim Gun Section of the Police Service Company under Captain Long Innes, and Lieutenant Green in command of the Northern Frontier District force of mounted infantry, has arrived at Melka Awarra, some 14 miles beyond Melka Galla, the junction of the two routes referred to in I.(iii) (c) of last week's precis. There he proposes to form a camp, send back transport for Major Rigby, and proceed along the Arbajaan road to find water in order to make an alternative road to Wajheir, while Lieutenant Green with the mounted infantry will patrol to Arrodimma and if necessary to Burria on the Wajheir road.

(iii)

(iii) On the 22nd a letter dated Archer's Post June 9th was received from Mr. Kittermaster reporting that an Abyssinian force of about 30 made an attack on a Boran village at Ketchore near Dubell about May 1st. Three Boran were killed and two wounded.

(iv) On the 22nd a letter dated Adis Ababa May 17th was received from the British minister enclosing a copy of a despatch sent by him that day to the Commissioner of Somaliland. He states

(a) that it is rumoured that Lij Yasu has expressed to the Somali at Adis Ababa his desire to see the Mullah recognized as King of all the Somali tribes, and he is further said to have written to the mullah in this sense

(b) that he does not believe that Abyssinia will take any aggressive action against any of the Entente Powers now, although in their present mood the Prince's advisers will certainly endeavour to create embarrassments for us in such a manner that, if things change, they can deny responsibility

(c) that at present Moslem influence predominates and that Lij Yasu undoubtedly regards this as the most convenient weapon to employ ^{to} this end as he could if necessary easily shift the blame on to the Ogaden tribes or, at the worst, on to the Turkish Consul

(d) that as Abyssinia is more or less out of touch with Italian and French Moslem interests, the effects of these intrigues are likely to fall on British Somaliland

(e) that the mullah's hostility to us can scarcely be increased, but that with Lij Yasu's influence behind them the Ogaden may become more active in raiding our tribes. To meet this danger the Somaliland Government must rely on its own efforts as diplomatic representations at Adis Ababa will, until the tide has turned in Europe beyond all possibility of doubt, be worse than useless.

Sd/- F. S. THOMAS.

Nairobi,

June 27th, 1916.